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Rep. Luján is Cosponsor of Legislation to Improve Education Coordination at Federal Agencies

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Ben Ray Luján voted in favor of the <u>STEM Education</u> Coordination Act of 2009

(H.R. 1709), which will improve the coordination of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education programs at the federal agencies. The bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of

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to

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. Rep. Luján is a cosponsor of the legislation, and he is a member of the Committee on Science and Technology, where the legislation originated.

"We must make a commitment to restore science and innovation as the keys to a new American economy," said Rep. Luján. "We must ensure that our students build new solar panels, research new computer chips, and become part of the workforce for the 21st century. Our nation's prosperity depends on the ability of our schools to educate and prepare young people for the jobs of the future - the jobs that we will create in the next five, ten and twenty years. This legislation will help federal agencies effectively coordinate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education programs, helping our schools to teach their students the skills they need for the 21st century."

According to the Committee on Science and Technology, the legislation will coordinate science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education activities performed across the federal government, at agencies including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Energy (DOE), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) the Department of Defense (DOD), and the Department of Education. The bill

strengthens and elevates an existing committee under NSTC to manage the coordination.	